SUCCESS! A Strategy That Embraces Skepticism



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Monsanto Wants Your Questions: Go Ask!

Posted: 07/29/2013 10:50 am

One of the reasons for skepticism of assertions of GMO safety is that any negative results from safety trials can simply go unpublished. To what extent has that happened, and will you support full disclosure of all results?

Question Submitted by: Tamar Haspel from Cape Cod, MA

Expert Answer(s):

We will not cut corners on safety, and are committed to full disclosure of scientific research related to the health and safety of GMO seeds. We are also required by law to provide information that is not favorable to our products. In submitting food safety information to the government for review, we cannot and would not pick and choose which research to present.

During the development of a new GMO seed, much of the research is conducted by independent third-party laboratories certified to conduct safety testing using protocols required by the government. If a study were ever to yield a result that raised any food safety concern, we are required to present that information to the FDA. We take this requirement very seriously. Failure to provide such statements to the government is a crime.

Answered by: Cathleen Enright on Wednesday, 7/31/2013 3:18 pm

Executive Director of the Council for Biotechnology Information

Cathy is the executive director of the Council for Biotechnology Information. She is also the executive vice president for food and agriculture at the Biotechnology Industry Organization, Cathy earned her PhD in Biochemistry and completed her postdoctoral training at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine before becoming an agricultural trade and environment negotiator for the federal government in 1995.

After her government service, Cathy worked for the produce industry before joining CBI and BIO in 2011. Cathy is a passionate advocate for all of US agriculture, and served on President Obama's Agricultural Policy Committee in 2008 and again in 2012.

levant legal requirements at the end of this answer for each of the agencies (FDA, have regulatory authority over GMO seeds.

R340.6) includes the following statement regarding submissions (petitions):